

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 04133 191111Z

12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MC-02

ACDA-07 OMB-01 DPW-01 EB-07 AID-05 TRSE-00 /079 W

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R 190748Z JUL 76 ZEL

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4019

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 4133

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VN, US

SUBJECT: POSTSCRIPT ON VISIT OF SRV VICE FOREIGN MINISTER

1. AT CEREMONY MARKING TURNOVER OF C-130'S PURCHASED FOR RMAF, PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN TOLD ME VIETNAMESE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD TAKEN PAINS TO ASSURE HIM OF SRV'S PEACEFUL INTENTIONS, SAYING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS NOT IN THE BUSINESS OF EXPORTING REVOLUTION. PHAN HIEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT MANY GROUPS HAD SOUGHT TO PURCHASE ARMS FROM HIS GOVERNMENT, BUT THAT ALL HAD BEEN REFUSED. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS STRUCK BY THE USE OF THE WORD "GROUPS." HE SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO HAVE PHAN'S ASSURANCES, BUT SAID THAT ONLY EXPERIENCE WILL SHOW HOW THE VIETNAMESE RECONCILE THEM WITH THEIR STATEMENTS OF IDEOLOGICAL SOLIDARITY WITH LIBERATION GROUPS.

2. THE PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR YUSUP ABUBAKAR TOLD ME HE HAD MADE A COURTESY CALL ON THE VISITING VIETNAMESE VICE
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PAGE 02 KUALA 04133 191111Z

FOREIGN MINSTER BECAUSE THE LATTER WAS VISITING MANILA.

PHAN WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THIS COURTESY AND THEY TALKED PRIMARILY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR THE PARTY'S MANILA SCHEDULE. ABUBAKAR SAID THAT SRV RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES WERE NOT RAISED, BUT THAT IN GOM BRIEFING FOLLOWING THE VISIT, HE HAD LEARNED THAT PHAN HAD TOLD MALAYSIAN OFFICIALS HIS GOVERNMENT WAS INTERESTED IN REGULARIZING RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, BUT ON THE BASIS OF FULFILLMENT OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. PHAN SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS INSISTING ON A FULL ACCOUNTING ON ALL POW'S AND THAT THE SRV WAS PREPARED TO TURN OVER A COMPLETE LIST IF THE U.S. WOULD HONOR ITS COMMITMENTS TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. I ASKED ABUBAKAR IF HE HAD RECEIVED AN IMPRESSION FROM THIS STATEMENT THAT THE VIETNAMESE WERE STILL HOLDING LIVING AMERICAN PRISONERS? HE SAID THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN ENTIRELY CLEAR FROM THE BRIEFING AS TO WHAT THE VIETNAMESE HAD MEANT.

3. I CHECKED THIS POINT WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE SECRETARY GENERAL DATUK ZAKARIA BIN MOHD. ALI, WHO CONFIRMED THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAD RAISED THE SUBJECT OF RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, BUT HAD NOT SAID ANYTHING SUGGESTING THAT THEY WERE STILL HOLDING AMERICAN PRISONERS. PHAN HAD SAID THAT THE U.S. WAS INSISTING ON A LIST OF THOSE HELD PRISONER. HIS GOVERNMENT, HE WENT ON, WAS PREPARED TO TURN OVER THIS LIST, BUT ONLY IF THE U.S. WAS PREPARED TO HONOR THE PORTIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON FINANCIAL AID TO VIETNAM.
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